

FIRST MYANMAR

TEACHER TRAINING ONLINE WORKSHOP

AGENDA & SPEAKER PROFILES

DATE

Sunday, 27 September 2026

FORMAT

Online



Organized By: Book Land By Myanmar Book Centre

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ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Teachers in Myanmar are working in an increasingly challenging and rapidly changing educational environment. Opportunities for continuous professional development can be limited, while teachers are expected to respond to evolving curricula, diverse student needs, new approaches to teaching and assessment, and increasing expectations for English language proficiency and critical thinking.

Myanmar Book Centre has organised the First Myanmar Teacher Training Online Workshop to support the continuing professional development of teachers in Myanmar. The workshop brings together experienced educators and professional trainers from Myanmar and internationally, with speakers joining from Japan, Australia, Thailand, the Philippines and the United Kingdom. They bring diverse experience and practical perspectives that can be applied in Myanmar classrooms. The programme addresses both the academic and human dimensions of teaching—from vocabulary development, communicative language teaching and critical reading and writing, to teaching with limited resources and supporting the mental health and well-being of students and teachers.

A particular focus is helping teachers move beyond memorisation towards more **student-centred, communicative and analytical learning**, including the critical reading, independent thinking and effective writing skills increasingly required by international curricula such as IGCSE.

The workshop also recognises the growing role of **Artificial Intelligence (AI) in teaching and learning**. The programme explores practical and responsible ways AI can support lesson preparation, learning materials, assessment, feedback, revision and differentiated learning—while supporting, rather than replacing, teachers' professional judgement and creativity.

Participation in this workshop is offered free of charge to Myanmar teachers. The workshop has been made possible through the voluntary and generous contributions of our international and local trainers, who are sharing their time, expertise and experience on a pro bono basis. Their commitment to the professional development of teachers in Myanmar is at the heart of this initiative, and Myanmar Book Centre sincerely appreciates their generosity and invaluable contribution.

Above all, the workshop aims to provide a practical platform for **professional learning, exchange and collaboration**, equipping teachers with useful strategies, renewed confidence and new perspectives for their classrooms.

Our goal is not simply to introduce new teaching methods, but to support teachers in becoming more confident, adaptable and future-ready educators.

OPENING

8:30-8:40 AM

10 minutes



Opening Remarks

Clyde Fowle

About the Speaker

Clyde Fowle is an experienced English Language Teaching (ELT) professional with over 30 years of experience across Asia in teaching, teacher training, educational publishing and programme management. He has presented extensively at international ELT conferences, written on aspects of teaching, and contributed to published materials for Asian learners. His experience also includes editorial consultancy, ELT product development, and sales and marketing management, including helping to conceive and develop key educational products for Asia.

8:40-8:45 AM

5 minutes



Welcoming Message

Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung

About the Speaker

Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung is the CEO of Myanmar Book Centre, with more than 30 years of experience in Myanmar's book and education sector. He has played a leading role in developing and supporting education, literacy and community-based learning programmes across Myanmar. Through Myanmar Book Centre, he has also worked extensively to improve access to quality books, educational resources and learning opportunities for teachers and students. He is a strong advocate for reading, lifelong learning, teacher development and the effective use of new technologies in education.

8:45-9:00 AM

15 minutes



Keynote Speech

Saya U Nay Oke

About the Speaker

Saya U Nay Oke is a distinguished educator, writer, translator, and lifelong advocate of education in Myanmar. With a rich academic background from the University of Yangon, he has devoted decades to teaching, writing, and nurturing generations of learners. As the founder of the Institute of English, he has played a significant role in advancing English-language education, while his contributions to literature, teacher training, humanitarian work, and educational reform have extended far beyond the classroom. Through his books, lectures, educational programmes, and continued service to society, he has become a respected figure whose life reflects a deep and enduring commitment to

education, literature, and the development of future generations. He is currently Chairman of the Myanmar Private School Association and the Rotary Club of Yangon.

MORNING SESSIONS

9:00-10:00 AM

60 minutes



Letting Go! Fostering Autonomy with Upper Primary Learners

Clyde Fowle

About the Speaker

Clyde Fowle is an experienced English Language Teaching (ELT) professional with over 30 years of experience across Asia in teaching, teacher training, educational publishing and programme management. He has presented extensively at international ELT conferences, written on aspects of teaching, and contributed to published materials for Asian learners. His experience also includes editorial consultancy, ELT product development, and sales and marketing management, including helping to conceive and develop key educational products for Asia.

Session Description

How can we make young learners less reliant on teachers and technology while building their self-confidence, resilience and critical-thinking skills?

In this session, participants will discuss the importance of developing autonomy, critical thinking and resilience in upper-primary learners and explore practical ways to build these skills alongside their current course content. Clyde will share practical activities that work - from managing class projects to creating opportunities for students to give mini-presentations. Through these activities, learners can gradually become more aware of the soft skills involved, practise them and reflect on their own development.

10:00-10:30 AM

30 minutes



Introducing Vocabulary

Jade Morris

About the Speaker

Jade Morris is currently Head of EAL at Malvern College Tokyo and has over ten years of international teaching experience. During her career, she has taught in Shanghai, Egypt, Thailand and Vietnam, working with pupils from a wide range of linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

She loves teaching and finds it especially rewarding to see pupils make progress and realise what they are capable of. A lifelong learner herself, Jade has recently completed an MA in Education.

Session Description

When introducing new language it is important that learners understand meaning, form, and pronunciation. This workshop will look at ways of introducing and practicing all three.

10:30-11:30 AM

60 minutes



AI for English Teachers: Practical Tools for Teaching and Learning

Practical AI Session

Session Description

This practical session will explore how AI can support English teachers in lesson preparation, creating learning materials, developing reading and writing activities, assessment, feedback and student revision. Participants will see practical examples of how AI tools can transform existing teaching content into useful learning resources such as study notes, quizzes and flashcards, while also supporting differentiated learning and independent study. The session will include a demonstration of Presto AI and discuss how teachers can use AI effectively and responsibly while maintaining their professional judgement and creativity.

11:30 AM-12:15 PM

45 minutes



From Rote Learning to Critical Thinking

Teaching English for IGCSE Success

SuSu Hlaing

About the Speaker

SuSu Hlaing holds a B.A. (Honours), M.A. and Master of Research in English from the University of Yangon. With nearly three decades of teaching experience, she has taught learners from primary to secondary levels and worked extensively with international school students following the British curriculum. She also has experience in educational publishing, textbook selection and teacher training. In 2012, she founded an English language learning centre offering enrichment programmes for K-12 students. She currently teaches both IGCSE First Language English and English as a Second Language.

Session Description

The radical shift in education in Myanmar has significantly raised the bar for English proficiency, moving away from rote memorisation and towards critical reading analysis, applying advanced writing techniques. At the IGCSE level, teachers face the immense challenge of bridging the gap between students' traditional learning habits and the rigorous standards of the international curriculum. This workshop will focus on ways to develop reading, writing and analytical skills, followed by discussion and Q & A session.

12:15-1:00 PM | LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

1:00-2:00 PM

60 minutes



Teaching with Low Resources

Dr. Raphael Kevin I. Nagal

About the Speaker

Dr. Raphael Kevin I. Nagal is an educator, researcher and licensed professional teacher with extensive experience teaching English, Science, STEM and research across basic and higher education. He holds a PhD in Science Education (Biology) from West Visayas State University, graduating with Highest Distinction as a Department of Science and Technology scholar. He also holds a Master of Arts in Education and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, cum laude, and is TEFL-certified. Currently a Capstone Project Leader and STEM Teacher at Americana Chinese International School, he has extensive experience in curriculum development, teacher training, research mentoring and culturally responsive education.

Session Description

How can ESL teachers deliver engaging and effective lessons when technology, textbooks, and classroom resources are limited? This practical workshop introduces globalized activities that connect international language-learning goals with learners' local cultures, contexts, and needs. Participants will explore adaptable strategies for speaking, pronunciation, grammar, reading, and writing; create low-cost modules and activity sheets; and use differentiation and formative assessment to support mixed-ability classes. The session also demonstrates how everyday classroom challenges can be transformed into manageable action-research projects for continuous professional improvement.

2:00-3:00 PM

60 minutes



Communicative Language Teaching

Cameron Albertson

About the Speaker

Cameron has over a decade of experience teaching in many contexts, including English for academic purposes, business English, young learners, and test preparation, both in person and online. He has taught in South Korea, China, and Thailand. His approach to teacher-training focuses on hands-on teaching experience combined with reflective practice, informed by theories of learning and language acquisition.

Session Description

This session introduces teachers to the key principles of Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) and explores how they can be applied in the language classroom. Participants will consider what it means to teach for communicative competence and examine practical ways to make lessons more meaningful, interactive, and learner-centered. Participants will explore techniques for designing communicative tasks, encouraging purposeful language use, and balancing communication with attention to language form. The workshop will also provide opportunities for teachers to reflect on how CLT can be adapted to their own learners, teaching contexts, and classroom constraints.

3:00-4:00 PM

60 minutes



Supporting Adolescent and Staff Mental Health

Managing Stress and Well-being

Romi Grossberg

About the Speaker

Romi Grossberg is a qualified counselor, author, and facilitator dedicated to helping individuals, schools, and organisations thrive rather than simply survive. With more than **20 years of experience in counseling** and **15 years of experience designing and delivering professional learning programs**, Romi has supported people across Australia and Asia in developing stronger emotional well-being, resilience, communication, and healthier workplace cultures.

Session Description

This workshop will focus on stress management and healthy coping strategies. We cannot avoid stress but we can learn better ways to handle it so it does not become a crisis. In this hour you will learn what stress is, healthy stress versus unhealthy stress, and the difference between stress and burnout. You will also take away a list of healthy coping strategies including how to implement them in order to do your job more effectively and create a calm work environment where teachers and students can thrive together.

4:00-5:00 PM

60 minutes



How to Increase Student-to-Student Interaction in Your Lessons John Cruft

About the Speaker

John Cruft (MA Education; PGDip TESOL; CELTA) is a British teacher and teacher trainer with 20 years of experience supporting teachers around the world. He has worked with schools and teachers across Asia, including Myanmar, where he has designed and delivered over 500 practical training sessions aimed at making teachers' lives easier in the classroom. He has a particular focus on practical training solutions for teachers working in low-resource government schools and looks forward to sharing useful classroom tips with participants.

Session Description

How to Increase Student-to-Student Interaction in Your Lessons

Looking to get your students talking, collaborating and learning from each other more? In this practical session, we'll explore simple ways to shift the balance from teacher-led interaction to meaningful student-to-student communication.

You'll identify common moments in a lesson where teacher-student interaction happens, discover how to flip these into opportunities for students to interact with each other, and leave with a plan for building more student-to-student interaction into your very next lesson.